

In the Claims:

Please rewrite claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A replaceable filtration module inserted between adjacent cell dividers, comprising:

a first wall and a second wall having opposed edges;

means for supporting the first and second walls on adjacent cell dividers;

at least one connection element coupling said first wall to said second wall; and

a porous filter plate carried by said at least one connection element and extending between the opposed edges of said first wall and said second wall, said porous filter plate supporting a granular filter media during filtration.

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Please cancel claim 8 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of and objections to the claims set forth in the Official Action of December 19, 2002, are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-13 are pending.

Claims 9-13 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 1, 4, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the rejections.

Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice.

None of the amendments to the claims introduces new matter.